



*Changing the Way  
America Works  
with Families*

205 W. Randolph Street

Suite 2222

Chicago, IL 60606

312.338.0900

F: 312.338.1522

E: [info@familysupportamerica.org](mailto:info@familysupportamerica.org)

W: [familysupportamerica.org](http://familysupportamerica.org)

Virginia L. Mason

President & CEO

May 9, 2005

Hon. Steny H. Hoyer  
House Democratic Whip  
H-306, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hoyer:

Family Support America is in full support of the Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2005. Community schools are not a luxury, but rather an imperative to positively support children and their families. Our nation desperately needs schools to work in partnership with community services, health care providers, families, and local businesses in a holistic approach to improve children and youth achievement in school and in life.

A large proportion of family resource programs provide services to children and families through local schools. The Full-Service Community Schools Act of 2005 would improve the coordination, delivery, effectiveness, and efficiency of all services provided to children and families by providing sorely needed grants to state collaboratives to bring all constituencies to the table to plan; provide technical assistance and training; and collect data to evaluate the impact of the policies and services.

We applaud this proposed legislation to expand support and build capacity of community schools. We know how important this legislation is to the success of our schools and futures of our children.

Please let me know if Family Support America can be a resource to you and others who are working to make this proposed bill law.

Respectfully,

Virginia L. Mason  
President and CEO